

C L A I M S

I Claim:

1. A method of invalidating stored data after a predetermined period of time comprising:
  - a. obtaining a current time from a clock source;
  - b. decrypting an expiration time associated with the stored data;
  - c. comparing the expiration time to the current time; and
  - d. invalidating the stored data if the current time is earlier than or equal to the expiration time.
2. The method according to Claim 1 wherein a-c are performed once every predetermined time interval until the current time is later than or equal to the expiration time.
3. The method according to Claim 1 wherein the expiration time is received as an encrypted expiration time from a remote source.
4. The method according to Claim 3 wherein stored data is downloaded from the remote source as encrypted data.
5. The method according to Claim 1 wherein the stored data is stored on a media storage device, further wherein the media storage device is a stand-alone device within an IEEE 1394-2000 serial bus network.
6. The method according to Claim 1 wherein the stored data is stored on a media storage device integrated within a television.
7. The method according to Claim 1 wherein the stored data is stored on a media storage device integrated within a computer.
8. The method according to Claim 1 further comprising re-validating the invalidated stored data by obtaining a new expiration time associated with the invalidated data.

9. The method according to Claim 1 wherein the expiration time is extended by obtaining an extended expiration time before the stored data is invalidated and further wherein the extended expiration time replaces the expiration time.
10. The method according to Claim 1 wherein the clock source is a secure clock source.
11. A media storage device for invalidating stored data after a predetermined period of time, the media storage device comprising:
  - a. an interface circuit for receiving a stream of data, wherein the stream of data includes content and an expiration time associated with the content;
  - b. a media coupled to the interface circuit for storing the received stream of data; and
  - c. a control circuit coupled to the interface circuit and the media for comparing a current time to the expiration time and enabling the stored content to be read from the media if the expiration time is earlier than the current time and invalidating the received stream of data if the expiration time is later than or equal to the current time.
12. The media storage device according to Claim 11 wherein the control circuit compares the current time to the expiration time once every predetermined time interval until the expiration time elapses.
13. The media storage device according to Claim 11 wherein the media storage device is a stand-alone device within a 1394-2000 serial bus network.
14. The media storage device according to Claim 13 wherein when the stored content is read from the media, the stored content is transmitted from the media storage device over the IEEE 1394-2000 serial bus to a display device.
15. The media storage device according to Claim 14 wherein the transmitted data is encrypted.

16. The media storage device according to Claim 11 further comprising a manipulating circuit coupled to the control circuit for encrypting and decrypting the stream of data received by and transmitted from the media storage device.
17. The media storage device according to Claim 11 wherein the media storage device is integrated within a television.
18. The media storage device according to Claim 11 wherein the media storage device is integrated within a computer.
19. The media storage device according to Claim 11 wherein the clock source is a secure clock source.
20. The media storage device according to Claim 11 wherein the content is viewable content.
21. A method of reading stored data from a media storage device comprising:
  - a. decrypting an expiration time stored within the media storage device, wherein the expiration time is associated with the stored data to be read;
  - b. comparing the expiration time to a global time to determine if the expiration time has elapsed; and
  - c. reading the stored data from the media storage device if the expiration time has not elapsed.
22. The method according to Claim 21 wherein a-b are performed once every predetermined time interval until the expiration time has elapsed.
23. The method according to Claim 22 wherein reading the stored data continues until the expiration time has elapsed, at which time the stored data is invalidated and reading the stored data discontinues.
24. The method according to Claim 21 wherein the media storage device is a stand-alone device within an IEEE 1394-2000 serial bus network.

25. The method according to Claim 24 wherein the stored data is transmitted from the media storage device over the IEEE 1394-2000 serial bus to a display device.
26. The method according to Claim 25 wherein the transmitted data is encrypted.
27. The method according to Claim 21 wherein the expiration time is received as an encrypted expiration time from a remote source.
28. The method according to Claim 27 wherein stored data is downloaded from the remote source as encrypted data.
29. The method according to Claim 21 wherein the stored data is stored on a media storage device integrated within a television.
30. The method according to Claim 21 wherein the stored data is stored on a media storage device integrated within a computer.
31. The method according to Claim 21 wherein the expiration time is extended by obtaining an extended expiration time before the stored data is invalidated, wherein the extended expiration time replaces the expiration time.
32. The method according to Claim 21 wherein the global time is obtained from a secure source.
33. A media storage device for storing data and invalidating stored data after a predetermined period of time, the media storage device comprising:
  - a. means for obtaining a current time from a clock source;
  - b. means for decrypting an expiration time associated with the stored data;
  - c. means for comparing the expiration time to the current time; and
  - d. means for invalidating the stored data if the current time is earlier than or equal to the expiration time.

34. The media storage device according to Claim 33 wherein the means for comparing compares the expiration time to the current time once every predetermined time interval until the expiration time elapses.
35. The media storage device according to Claim 33 wherein the media storage device is a stand-alone device within a 1394-2000 serial bus network.
36. The media storage device according to Claim 33 further comprising means for reading stored content from the media storage device.
37. The media storage device according to Claim 36 wherein when the stored content is read from the media, the stored content is transmitted from the media storage device over the IEEE 1394-2000 serial bus to a display device.
38. The media storage device according to Claim 37 wherein the transmitted data is encrypted.
39. The media storage device according to Claim 33 wherein the expiration time is received as an encrypted expiration time from a remote source.
40. The media storage device according to Claim 39 wherein stored data is downloaded from the remote source as encrypted data.
41. The media storage device according to Claim 33 wherein the stored data is stored on a media storage device integrated within a television.
42. The media storage device according to Claim 33 wherein the stored data is stored on a media storage device integrated within a computer.
43. The media storage device according to Claim 33 wherein the clock source is a secure clock source.

44. A method of invalidating stored data after a predetermined time period comprising:
- a. waiting until a predetermined time interval has elapsed;
  - b. obtaining a global time from a clock source;
  - c. decrypting an expiration time associated with the downloaded data;
  - d. comparing the expiration time to the global time to determine if the expiration time has elapsed;
  - e. repeating a-d until the expiration time has elapsed; and
  - f. invalidating the stored data when the expiration time has elapsed.
45. The method according to Claim 44 wherein the expiration time is received as an encrypted expiration time from a remote source.
46. The method according to Claim 45 wherein stored data is downloaded from the remote source as encrypted data.
47. The method according to Claim 44 wherein the stored data is stored on a media storage device, wherein the media storage device is a stand-alone device within an IEEE 1394-2000 serial bus network.
48. The method according to Claim 44 wherein the stored data is stored on a media storage device integrated within a television.
49. The method according to Claim 44 wherein the stored data is stored on a media storage device integrated within a computer.
50. The method according to Claim 44 further comprising re-validating the invalidated stored data by obtaining a new expiration time associated with the invalidated data.
51. The method according to Claim 44 wherein the expiration time is extended by obtaining an extended expiration time before the stored data is invalidated, wherein the extended expiration time replaces the expiration time.
52. The method according to Claim 44 wherein the clock source is a secure clock source.

53. A method of invalidating stored data after a predetermined time period comprising:
- a. obtaining an encrypted expiration time from a remote source;
  - b. downloading an encrypted data stream associated with the expiration time onto a media storage device;
  - c. waiting until a predetermined time interval has elapsed;
  - d. obtaining a global time from a clock source;
  - e. decrypting the expiration time associated with the downloaded data;
  - f. comparing the expiration time to the global time to determine if the expiration time has elapsed;
  - g. repeating c-f until the expiration time has elapsed; and
  - h. invalidating the stored data when the expiration time has elapsed.
54. The method according to Claim 53 wherein the clock source is a secure clock source.
55. A network of devices comprising:
- a. a receiving device for obtaining a received stream of data; and
  - b. a media storage device coupled to the receiving device for storing the received stream of data and invalidating the stored stream of data after a predetermined period of time, the media storage device comprising:
    - i. an interface circuit for receiving the received stream of data from the receiving device, wherein the stream of data includes content and an expiration time associated with the content;
    - ii. a media coupled to the interface circuit for storing the received stream of data; and
    - iii. a control circuit coupled to the interface circuit and the media for comparing a current time to the expiration time and enabling the stored content to be read from the media if the expiration time is earlier than the current time and invalidating the received stream of data if the expiration time is later than or equal to the current time.

56. The network of devices according to Claim 55 wherein the control circuit compares the current time to the expiration time once every predetermined time interval until the expiration time elapses.
57. The network of devices according to Claim 55 wherein the media storage device is a stand-alone device within an IEEE 1394-2000 serial bus network.
58. The network of devices according to Claim 57 wherein when the stored content is read from the media, the stored content is transmitted from the media storage device over the IEEE 1394-2000 serial bus to a display device.
59. The network of devices according to Claim 58 wherein the transmitted data is encrypted.
60. The network of devices according to Claim 55 further comprising a manipulating circuit coupled to the control circuit for encrypting and decrypting the stream of data received by and transmitted from the media storage device.
61. The network of devices according to Claim 55 wherein the media storage device is integrated within a television.
62. The network of devices according to Claim 55 wherein the media storage device is integrated within a computer.
63. The network of devices according to Claim 55 wherein the current time is obtained from a secure source.
64. The network of devices according to Claim 55 wherein the content is viewable content.